

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 5-15, 17-21, 23, 25-26, 30-32, and 35-39 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A flocked assembly, comprising flock and a thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film, wherein the flock is in contact with and adhered to the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film.
2. (Original) A transfer comprising the flocked assembly of claim 1.
3. (Original) The flocked assembly of claim 2, wherein said flock is adhered to a release sheet by a release agent.
4. (Original) The transfer of claim 3, wherein said transfer is adhered to a substrate.
5. (Currently Amended) The transfer of claim 4, wherein said transfer is adhered to said substrate by the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film.
6. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film is a thermosetting polyurethane film or a thermosetting polyester film.
7. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film is precut to correspond to a shape of the transfer.
8. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 3, wherein the release agent and release sheet are located on a first surface of the flock and the thermosetting ~~hot~~

~~melt~~ film is positioned on a second surface of the flock and the first and second surfaces are in an opposing relationship.

9. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film is crosslinked.

10. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein there is no binder adhesive located between the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film and the flock.

11. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film is applied to a substrate and the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film preformed before application to the flock and substrate.

12. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film is not fully crosslinked.

13. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein the flock is in direct physical contact with the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film.

14. (Currently Amended) The flocked assembly of claim 1, wherein the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film is not fully activated.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of producing an article of manufacture having a flocked surface, the method comprising:

supplying flock;

adhering said flock to a thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film, wherein said flock is formed in

5 a desired pattern on the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein in said supplying step said flock is adhered to a release sheet by a release agent.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to a substrate to adhere the flock to the substrate.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the flocked release sheet comprises heating the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to a temperature at which the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film becomes tacky, but below a temperature at which the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film begins to
5 cure and cross-link.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the substrate comprises heating the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film to a temperature at which the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film cures and cross-links.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film is heated to about 300°F.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the flocked release sheet and the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the substrate are performed substantially simultaneously in a single operation.

22. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the thermosetting film is a thermosetting polyurethane film or a thermosetting polyester film.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the substrate, thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film, and flocked release sheet are brought together substantially simultaneously to form a pre-assembly and further comprising:

5 applying heat to the pre-assembly to permanently adhere the flock to the substrate;
and
removing the release sheet from the flock to produce a flocked substrate.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 including a step of applying pressure to the pre-assembly.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the step of applying heat comprises heating the pre-assembly to about 300°F.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the thermosetting ~~hot melt~~ film is a thermosetting polyester or a thermosetting polyurethane.

27. (Original) The method of claim 23 further comprising a step of cutting the flocked substrate to desired lengths to form articles.

28. (Original) The method of claim 23 further comprising a step of collecting the flocked substrate on a product roll.

29. (Original) A flocked article manufactured by the steps of claim 15.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for producing an article of manufacture having a flocked surface, the method comprising:

5 providing flock;
providing a thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film;
providing a substrate;

bringing the substrate, thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film, and the flock together with the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film between the flock and the substrate and with the flock in contact with the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film, to form a pre-assembly;

applying heat to the pre-assembly to adhere the flock to the substrate; and

10 removing the release sheet from the flock to produce a flocked substrate.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of applying pressure to the pre-assembly.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film is a thermosetting polyester or a thermosetting polyurethane.

33. (Original) The method of claim 30 further comprising a step of cutting the flocked substrate to desired lengths to form articles.

34. (Original) The method of claim 30 further comprising a step of collecting the flocked substrate on a product roll.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the substrate comprises heating the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film to a temperature at which the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film cures and cross-links.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film is heated to about 300°F.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the flock and the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the substrate are performed substantially simultaneously in a single operation.

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38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, further comprising: adhering the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film to the flock; and wherein the adhering step occurs before the heating step.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the step of adhering the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to the flock comprises heating the thermosetting ~~hot-melt~~ film to a temperature at which the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film becomes tacky, but below a temperature at which the ~~hot-melt~~ thermosetting film begins to cure and cross-link.

40. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein in the providing step the flock is adhered to a transfer sheet by a release agent.